THE

CHRISTIAN WORLD

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NOVEMBER, 1959

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Topics for December

MEXICAN LEADERS WITH HAROLD WESTERHOFF AT FLOATING GARDENS OF XOCHIMILCO

For Christ and the Church...

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

Cover

A Christian Endeavor monogram in red and white carnations decorated this gondola when Harold Westerhoff (third from left) visited the floating gardens of Xochimilco with Christian Endeavor leaders. David Macias (fourth from left) is the immediate past president of the Mexican national union and David Herrera (seventh from left) is the newly-elected vice-president. Mr. Westerhoff was in Mexico to arrange for the Pacific Area Conference of the World's Union to be held in Mexico City August 17-20, 1960. Photo by Daniel Vasquez

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The Voice of Christian Endeavor

NOVEMBER • 1959

Volume 75, Number 3

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A member of Associated Church Press and Evangelical Press Association.

Published monthly, except combined June-July and August-September issues, by The Christian Endeavor World, Inc., at 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio. Second-class postage paid at Columbus, Ohio.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: United States and Canada—$2 a year; five copies to one address $8 a year; ten copies to one address $13 a year. Other countries—$2.50 a year. Single Copy, 30c.

NOTICE: Change of address should be received by first of month to affect following month's issue. Give old address as well as new one.

MEMO

from the General Secretary . . . .

ANOTHER ORCHID TO DR. POLING

The hosts of admirers of World's Union President Dr. Daniel A. Poling will be pleased to see another of his wonderful books in circulation. What promises to be a best seller has just been released by McGraw-Hill Book Company under the title MINE EYES HAVE SEEN. An autobiography of Dr. Poling would have at once to be a story of Christian Endeavor, too. And it is just that, although it moves into a host of other areas as well, for Dr. Poling's ministry has been a diversified one. The price—$5.00. Order from the Publishing Department, International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

DOES YOUR CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP SHOW?

The International Society of Christian Endeavor, along with nearly fifty other major national groups, belongs to the All-American Conference to Combat Communism. It is an ill-concealed fact that the Communist conspiracy depends for its ultimate success on today's youth. So Christian Endeavor rightfully belongs in this association which embraces groups from every walk of life. The National Association of Evangelicals and the International Society of Christian Endeavor are the two major Protestant religious bodies in the All-American Conference.

For the ninth successive year the All-American Conference, through its affiliated organizations, is sponsoring at the national, state and local levels a KNOW YOUR AMERICA WEEK program. It will be observed during the period beginning Sunday, November 22, through Saturday, November 28.

Christian Endeavorers can lead the way in setting up community events. Seek the cooperation of many other organizations in the community—churches, educational groups, fraternal organizations, labor movements, civic and service clubs, women's groups, business and professional societies, veterans' organizations and other patriotic societies.

There can be no let-down in combatting Communist infiltration. Christian Endeavorers can be instrumental in marshalling all the forces of the community and seeing that they are effectively mustered in this effort.

A KNOW YOUR AMERICA WEEK observance can be a mighty effective means to bring about a stirring and enlightening series of events that will point in the right direction in this battle. The President of the United States has again endorsed this program. We urge you to take the lead in your community—write to the International Society of Christian Endeavor, Robert C. Ross, citizenship director, for the helpful manual. Then call the representatives of other groups and, together, plan for enlisting more and more of your fellow citizens in a community-wide observance of KNOW YOUR AMERICA WEEK.

Christian Endeavorers, let your Christian Citizenship show!

ABOUT CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORERS

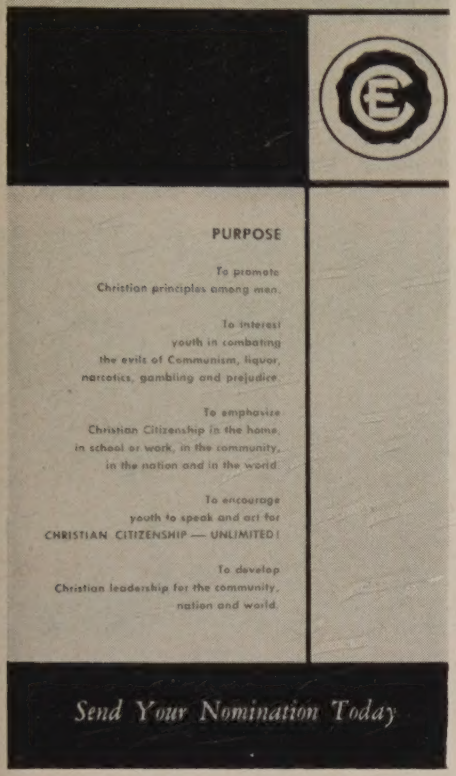
James S. Mather, Christian Endeavor leader from Ceylon, was recently awarded the Degree of Doctor of Divinity at a convocation at Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa. . . . Jess Johnson, recently pastor of St. Johns Christian Church, Portland, Oregon, was awarded a similar degree at Milligan College. . . . Dr. Daniel K. Poling, minister of the Fort Washington Collegiate Church (Reformed in America), New York City, is serving on the Clerical Advisory Council of the National Association of Manufacturers. . . . C. John Crockett, ardent Christian Endeavor enthusiast from Yonkers, New York, died recently. John was active in many ways in Christian Endeavor in Westchester County and in New York State. He was also much in evidence in International Christian Endeavor Conventions. An accomplished photographer of high professional standing, John's pictures have been seen many times by readers of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD. We extend our sympathy to his wife and daughter.

ANOTHER ANNIVERSARY

We have just observed the anniversary of our moving into "1221." It was on October 20, 1953, that we moved into the new Daniel A. Poling Building, the headquarters of the World's Christian Endeavor Union and of the International Society of Christian Endeavor. It is your headquarters; plan to visit it "one of these days." The latchstring is always out.

Harold Westerhoff

Christian Endeavor's Citizenship Contest


PURPOSE
To promote Christian principles among men.
To interest youth in combating the evils of Communism, liquor, narcotics, gambling and prejudice.
To emphasize Christian Citizenship in the home, in school or work, in the community, in the nation and in the world.
To encourage youth to speak and act for CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP — UNLIMITED!
To develop Christian leadership for the community, nation and world.
Send Your Nomination Today

This is a replica of the cover of the 1960 Citizenship Contest folder, which contains complete contest information plus helpful hints for individuals and for societies.

Many Opportunities For Youth and Societies

Youth of North America have many opportunities to win honors in the ninth annual Christian Endeavor Citizenship Contest which is being conducted by the International Society of Christian Endeavor.

For the first time, according to Robert C. Ross, citizenship director, awards are being offered to societies as well as to individual young people.

The Albert H. Diebold Awards in the contest total $1,100 in cash plus two trips to Christian Endeavor's Citizenship Convocation in Ottawa, Ontario, for the top individual winners.

The International Society's current Christian Citizenship program, including the contest and awards, is made possible through a generous gift from Albert H. Diebold, a Christian layman of New York City.

Two Sections

Competition in the contest will be in two sections—one for individual young people who are under 25 years of age and another for Christian Endeavor societies or similar youth groups.

Nominations in either category must be made before February 8, 1960. Youth desiring to enter the contest may be nominated by an adult, by another young person, or by themselves. Societies may be nominated by a contact person.

The contest for individuals will be judged in two divisions—Division A for all youth in high school or below, Division B for those out of high school. Winners will be determined by "An Open Letter" on the subject CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP — UNLIMITED! along with a Christian Citizenship Service Record of the individual.

The top youth in each division will be selected for each state or province. These winners will be eligible for competition in the ten regions of North America with regional winners participating for the final judging for top international awards.

Awards for Societies

In the society competition awards will be based on a significant Christian citizenship project sponsored and reported by the group. The project must be conducted between September 1, 1959, and March 1, 1960. It will be evaluated on the basis of group participation, goals established and achieved, and the quality of the composite report.

The winning society will receive $150 in cash with $75 going to the group finishing in second place and $25 to the unit in third position.

Further information concerning the contest may be secured by writing to the International Society of Christian Endeavor or by contacting leaders of state and provincial unions. Citizenship directors in each union are taking care of promotion of the contest and judging in their areas.

Convocation in Ottawa

Clyde Sherk of Port Colborne, Ontario, is heading up the local committee to make arrangements for Christian Endeavor's Citizenship Convocation, scheduled for July 1-3, 1960, in Canada's capital city.

The Convocation begins with dinner Friday night and concludes Sunday afternoon. The fee of $35 includes meals (except breakfasts) and hotel accommodations, three or four to a room, in the fabulous Chateau Laurier, plus sightseeing and registration fee.

Nomination Form FOR INDIVIDUALS

PLEASE PRINT

Send to Citizenship Director, International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

Valid only if postmarked no later than February 8, 1960

NOTE: You may be nominated by an adult, by another young person, or you may nominate yourself.

Please enter_____
(Name)
in Christian Endeavor's Citizenship Contest. Send all information to the contestant at

_____
(Address)

_____
(City, Zone, State)

(Disregard the following if you are nominating yourself) I agree to encourage my nominee to complete the "Letter" and Service Record.

_____
(Name of Person Making Nomination)

_____
(Address of Person Making Nomination)

_____
(City, Zone, State of Person Making Nom.)

Nomination Form FOR SOCIETIES

PLEASE PRINT

Send to Citizenship Director, International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

Valid only if postmarked no later than February 8, 1960

Please enter_____
(Name of Society or Group)

_____
(Name of Church)

in Christian Endeavor's Citizenship Contest. Send all information to

_____
(Name of Contact Person)

_____
(Address of Contact Person)

_____
(City, Zone, State of Contact Person)

_____
Office or Position of Contact Person

South of the Border

Leaders of the Fronterizo Presbytery Unions shown at their recent convention at Cuidad Victoria are (left to right) Lilia Saldivar; Rev. Fortino Aguilar; Dr. Oziel Garza Rocha, president of the Young People's Union and newly-elected president of the Mexican National Union; Minerva de Leon; Mizram Gonzalez; Harold E. Westerhoff, general secretary of the International Society and the World's Union; Herlinda Rodriguez, president of the Intermediate Union; Jose Ines Montes; and Rev. Josue Carrillo.

Junior Endeavorers leading a service in the recent convention of the Fronterizo Presbytery Union are (left to right) David Martinez, Azael Martinez, Hortensia Alvarez, Amador Gutierrez, Candelario Moron, Mariano Moron, Adamina Saldivar, and Ruben Saldivar.

Rev. Saul Tijerina G. (left), counselor of the Mexican National Union, is pictured with Harold E. Westerhoff and Nino Gonzalez (center), past president of the union, and his two sons in front of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Monterrey, where Mr. Tijerina is pastor. At the International Convention in Denver in 1953 Mr. Tijerina represented the Mexican Union.

Harold Westerhoff confers with Rev. Moises Rizo (right), chairman of the youth commission of the National Presbyterian Church in Mexico.

Photos by Daniel Vasquez and J. Nino Gonzalez

Enjoying fellowship at the floating gardens are Thomas I. Harnish (left), treasurer of the Presbyterian Mission in Mexico City; Daniel Vasquez (right), past president of the Mexican Union; and Harold E. Westerhoff.

Harold E. Westerhoff, general secretary of both the International Society and th World's Christian Endeavor Union, has made two trips to Mexico this year in prep aration for the Pacific Area Conference of the World's Union to be held Augu 17-20 in Mexico City. While in Mexico he set up the itinerary for the Mexica Fellowship Tour, which is scheduled to leave Chicago August 6 by air and to retur to Chicago by plane on August 28. Tour party members will visit Acapulco, Taxc Tlaxcala, Hacienda Vista Hermosa, the pyramids, and many other exciting an fascinating places in Mexico, and will participate in the Pacific Area Conferenc Cost of the entire tour is $625.

Be a Booster!

Young people from all areas of the International Society are enrolling as Boosters in the CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD Awards Program and earning valuable awards.

During the recent Philadelphia Convention 35 of these Boosters met together for lunch and then went to work buttonholing delegates, securing 132 new subscriptions to "the voice of Christian Endeavor" through their efforts.

Special awards to the top Boosters during the convention went to Sherry Lynn Lucas of Spring City, Pennsylvania, and to Ronald Bush of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Open to young people under 25 years of age, the CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD Awards Program gives one point for each dollar turned in for new subscriptions to Christian Endeavor's official publication.

Awards offered include Christian Endeavor rings, jackets and supplies, radios, phonographs, cameras, etc., plus a special top award of $75 toward expenses of attending the Citizenship Convocation in Ottawa, Ontario, in 1960. More details are given in the Awards Program folder.

These Boosters have enrolled since the last list was published:

Alabama
Lynn Hope Moody, Birmingham

California
Curtis Goodenough, Fillmore
Larry Hall, Folsom

Colorado
Jerry Knox, Littleton

District of Columbia
Andrew H. Fowler, Washington, D.C.

Indiana
William Grubb, Evansville

Kentucky
George Kaelin, Louisville

Massachusetts
Ralph Johnson, Jr., Braintree
Ralph Ricker, Jr., North Grafton

Michigan
Stuart Draper, Muskegon
Dave Steginк, Muskegon

Minnesota
David Antonson, Duluth

New Jersey
Bonnie Hall, Newark
Richard Peltz, Irvington
Maryanne Rogers, Newark
Kenneth Weimar, Newark
Ann Wilson, Maplewood

New York
Suzanne Alhart, Rochester
Tom Black, Great Neck
Marge Bundschuh, Webster
Esther C. Daugherty, Tarrytown
Earle W. Gates, Jr., Derby
Ann Haeussler, Saugerties
Jean Johnville, Rochester
Linda C. Linderman, Franklinville
Carole Post, Franklinville
Rob Siller, North Tarrytown
Paul Vydareny, North Tarrytown
Milton Wackerow, Rochester
Thomas Williams, Angola
Ron Wilson, Hicksville
Lynette Usherwood, New Paltz

Ohio
Edna Beatty, Covington
Robert F. Hildreth, Columbus
Bonnie Merkle, Dayton
Linda Stocker, Covington

Pennsylvania
Sherry Lynn Lucas, Spring City
Dorothy Magotch, Philadelphia
Eileen McGaw, Philadelphia
Ronny Reyburn, West Grove
Carol Ann Sedden, Philadelphia

Texas
Lynda Green, Houston
Gloria McDonald, LaMarque
Julie Phillips, Houston

Miss Phyllis I. Rike, Editor
THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD
1221 East Broad Street
Columbus 16, Ohio

Please enroll me as a BOOSTER in the Awards Program for THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD. I understand this qualifies me to work for the many valuable awards offered. Send me subscription blanks and sample copies of "the Voice of Christian Endeavor." I want to get to work RIGHT NOW.

My position in Christian Endeavor is_____

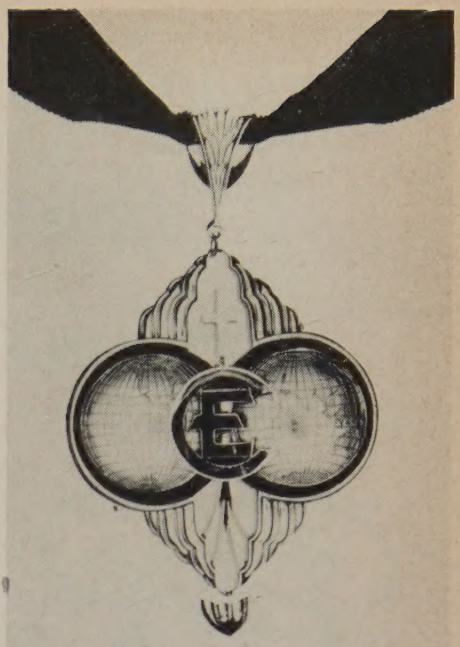
_____. Hurry up!

My Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone __ State_____

Church or Union _____ Age _____



President's Chain
World's Christian Endeavor Union

This beautiful gold chain was presented to Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, recently. This significant chain of office will be passed from president to president of the World's Union. Dr. Poling is the second president, having succeeded Dr. Francis E. Clark, founder of the Christian Endeavor movement, following his death in 1927.

Honors are open to Australian Endeavorers in the current H. F. Jullien Memorial Thesis competition. In honor of Harry F. Jullien, a former national secretary and president, the awards are based on manuscripts of not less than 3,000 words on some organizational aspect of the Christian Endeavor movement. Entries are being judged in two sections—one for Endeavorers under 25 years of age; another for those over 25. Winners are to be announced by November 30.

Tell the Story

Christian Endeavor's 1960 Outdoor Poster Program offers many excellent opportunities for highway evangelism. Millions will be reached by these "silent messengers" as Endeavorers throughout the United States and Canada participate in the program.

Attractively designed, with the message "Forward—For Christ and the Church" in bold letters, these four-color posters are real attention-getters. "Attend Christian Endeavor Regularly" appears in large type at the bottom of each poster.

Thousands of dollars of valuable space is made available each year through contribution postings by local poster plant owners, who are members of the Outdoor Advertising Association of America, Inc.

November 15 is the deadline date for Christian Endeavorers to place orders for posters. To learn how to share in the Outdoor Poster Program, contact the International Society of Christian Endeavor or the chairman in the state or provincial union.

choosing your chums

Friendship, praised by ancient writers, has been declared obsolete by others in our modern era. Among the Greeks it was said that the soul of man is only a fragment of a larger whole, and goes out in search of other souls in which it will find its true completion. Plato, Aristotle, Epictetus, Cicero—all had much to say about friendship. They assigned it an important place in their systems of thought and valued it as one of heaven's highest gifts.

The Stoic saw friendship as a blessed occasion for the display of nobility and the native virtues of the human mind. To the Epicurean it was the most refined of pleasures that made life worthwhile. Aristotle made it the high point of his ethics and devoted two out of his ten books in that field to the subject. It is even the connecting link between his ethics and his treatise on politics. It is the flower of the former and the root of the latter.

There have been persons in our time, however, who have ridiculed friendship. Their conception of spiritual values and of society reminds one of the philosopher Schopenhauer who once compared human society and its friendships to a group of porcupines on a cold night. The chill night air made them want to huddle together for warmth but when they came too close together they pricked each other with their quills. So they drew apart again only to suffer from the cold. After a series of adjustments they hunched shivering at that point where they suffered the least from the cold and from the pricks which they gave each other. That cynical picture of human society is not without some foundation in our impersonal, mechanical age when some have lost the appreciation as well as the art of friendship.

Yet we can rejoice that the time-honored values, friendship among them, are not obsolete and that life's true meaning with all its richness is discovered when one opens his soul to them. The cynic and modern pagan alike may decry the old virtues and live in self-centered ignorance of God's choicest gifts. But then one day the cynic, or pagan, may make the great discovery that he is something to another and that another is everything to him, and his darkened world will suddenly become brightened by new light. He will find a new joy in living and his personality will be enriched by the other's presence in his life.

Friendship continues to be real and precious in human experience. Rudyard Kipling writes of soldiers common in mind and vulgar in thought, but the faithfulness they have to each other saves them from utter vulgarity and, as the strongest force in their lives, reminds one of their higher calling even when they failed to honor it. The monuments to friendship which one finds in Milton's *Lycidas* and Tennyson's *In Memoriam* are reminders of the secure place given it in the great literature of the world.

The level where the beauty of friendship is best seen is in fellowship with the people of God. Only they who have come to know Him who has created man with the capacity for friendship can experience the pure, selfless love for each other shared by David and Jonathan. "They met," says Hugh Black, "and at the meeting knew each other to be nearer than kindred. By subtle elective affinity they felt that they belonged to each other. Out of all the chaos of the time and the disorder of their lives, there arose for these two souls a new and beautiful world, where there reigned peace, and love, and sweet content. It was the miracle of the death of self. Jonathan forgot his pride, and David his ambition. It was as the smile of God which changed the world to them. One of them it saved from the temptations of a squalid court, and the other from the sourness of an exile's life. Jonathan's princely soul had no room for envy or jealousy. David's frank nature rose to meet the magnanimity of his friend.

"In the kingdom of love there was no disparity between the king's son and the shepherd boy. Such a gift as each gave and received is not to be bought or sold. It was the fruit of the innate nobility of both; it softened and tempered a very trying time for both. Jonathan withstood his father's anger to shield his friend; David was patient with Saul for his son's sake. They agreed to be true to each other in their difficult position. Close and tender must have been the bond, which had such fruit in princely generosity and mutual loyalty of soul. Fitting was the beautiful lament, when David's heart was bereaved at tragic Gilboa, 'I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan. Very pleasant hast thou been unto me; thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.'"

Friendship influences one for good or i in direct correspondence with the characte of one's friends. We have a duty to other we have also a duty to ourselves. As w influence others, so we in turn are affecte by the lives that touch ours. Influence like an atmosphere which one inhales an exhales. There are persons who seer neutral and colorless with little atmospher Some have a bad atmosphere who seem t contaminate when they come. Others hav a good atmosphere in which one feels tha he can breathe in safety. They seem to pu pure oxygen into the moral and spiritual a that we breathe and we breathe more freel for it. As one is careful about the air tha he breathes, so he should be careful abou the friendships with which he surround himself. They will influence him, and the will influence him for good or for evi There is much to the old adage which run "A man can be told by the company h keeps." As a man's friends are, so he bound, sooner or later, to be.

Where I live there are many varieties o birds — cardinals, orioles, wrens, catbird robins and, yes, starlings! Birds of a feathe flock together. That is true of men as we as of the little, feathered creatures. So b careful when you choose your chums. An do *choose* them!

That is not to suggest that one be "uppity or conceited; indeed not! Christianity forbid that. But it means that one consider who h friends will be, that he choose those whos he can help, and who can help him becom more of what he ought to be. We choos our friends not only so that they can help u but so that we can help them, too.

"If you loved only what were worth your love,
Love were clear gain, and wholly well for you."

But we also remember that the friends w make will draw us towards themselves s that we become more like them. Aristot defines friendship as one soul abiding i two bodies, and the point is clear. S choose your chums. Choose them wit their character, their interests and potent alities in mind. Choose them rememberin yourself, your gifts, your needs and weak nesses. Above all, choose them in th realization that there is one, the "Frien who sticketh closer than a brother," wh watches your associations and before whos one day you will give account—of you friendships as well as the rest of you activity. He calls us not servants but friend (John 15:15) and desires to fill our live with His blessing and grace.

When someone once asked Kingsley wha was the secret of his strong, joyful life, h answered, "I had a friend." The influenc of a friend can determine the quality o one's life. So choose your chums with car

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By M. Eugene Osterhaven

Professor of Systematic Theology,
Western Theological Seminary,
Holland, Michigan

Christian Endeavor Week 1960

JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 7

Theme: "Citizenship Unlimited!"

February 2 marks the 79th birthday of Christian Endeavor. Societies and unions are now making preparations for celebrating this significant anniversary.

This week offers opportunity to dramatize the place and purpose of youth in the program of the church and community. It focuses attention upon the responsibility youth have to the church and the church to youth.

On Denominational Sunday, January 31, youth will seek to appreciate the history and work of their own church. On Christian Endeavor Day, Sunday, February 7, it is suggested that groups join together in services using the theme, "My Church—Christ's Church." This will be the climax of the week.

For help in making adequate plans, secure the 1960 Christian Endeavor Week Packet. This contains a manual full of ideas and suggestions, plus scripts for radio and television programs, party plans, sample bulletin covers, place mats and napkins, and many other helpful items.

This complete packet can be ordered for only 50c from state or provincial union headquarters or from the International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

HONOR SOCIETIES

Since the last list was published of societies and unions who have officially become members of the International Society of Christian Endeavor by financial support during Membership Mobilization, a number of others have participated in the 1959 Society Roll Call.

Unions or societies listed below contributed during the period from May 1 through September 30. Those receiving gold seals have given $50 and those securing blue seals have given $15.

Gold Seal

Somerset County Union, Somerville, New Jersey
North Carolina Union, Burlington, North Carolina

Blue Seal

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Wilmington, Delaware
Central United Brethren Church, Rohrersville, Maryland
First Presbyterian Church, Atco, New Jersey
Passaic County Union, Passiac, New Jersey
Senior, Fourth of Bruce United Brethren Evangelico Church, Tiverton, Ontario
Woodland United Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Vernon Evangelical United Brethren Church, Letart, West Virginia
Georgetown Branch, Grand Cayman, British West Indies

Planning an Estate?

In your estate planning, remember Christian Endeavor International in your will, that its ministry may be undergirded in the days ahead.

A Sample Bequest:

I give and bequeath to the International Society of Christian Endeavor, Columbus, Ohio, the sum of ..... Dollars.

For information write to:

Harold E. Westerhoff
General Secretary
International Society of Christian Endeavor
1221 East Broad Street
Columbus 16, Ohio

THE PRAYING HANDS

(Written by Frances Freeman, Christian Endeavorer from St. Johns Christian Church, Portland, Oregon)

One day, while glancing through a book
from the shelf upon the wall,
Upon a torn and wrinkled page my gaze
chanced to fall;
And there I saw a picture that is known
to many throughout all lands—
For the caption bore the famous title,
"The Praying Hands."
At first I wondered—Whose hands are
these?
Did he till the soil or maybe sail the
seven seas?
Was he a man of riches, a possessor of
many things,
Or was he poor, a victim of the strange
gifts that Dame Fortune often brings?
Perhaps he was old, and of a spirit both
gentle and kind,
Or maybe he was young, with a bold heart
and strong mind.
Was he great and noble, one of worldwide
fame
Or was this man content to be the possessor
of no acclaim?
As there I sat wondering of a man unknown
to me,
I thought how foolish I was to care who
this man was or what he had come to be.
I no longer thought of whether this man
was young or whether he was old
And if he wore a coat of rags or a cloak
of finely woven gold;
It mattered not whether this man had been
a king or whether he had tilled the sod,
For all at once all that I could see was that
this man was praying to his God.

CHICAGO 1961

Illinois Endeavorers are on fire with enthusiasm as they look forward to serving as hosts for the 1961 International Christian Endeavor Convention to be held July 5-8 in Chicago.

A real convention emphasis was given by leaders from the Windy City at the banquet of the recent Great Lakes Regional Conference. The local committee will soon be organized so work can get under way.

Dr. Earle W. Gates of Derby, New York, immediate past president of the International Society, is heading up the Program Committee for the Chicago Convention. The first meeting was held October 24 in Columbus, Ohio.

Already convention registration blanks are available. These may be secured from International Headquarters in Columbus, Ohio.

Philadelphia Panorama

A set of approximately 150 Kodachrome 2x2 slides with accompanying script, giving a complete visual report of the recent International Convention in Philadelphia, is now available on a loan basis from the International Society of Christian Endeavor. Prepared by Christian A. Tirre of Louisville, Kentucky, this unit is entitled "Philadelphia Panorama." Write to Phyllis I. Rike, Assistant Secretary, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio, to schedule use of the slides. There is no charge except postage.

Burma Christian Endeavorers

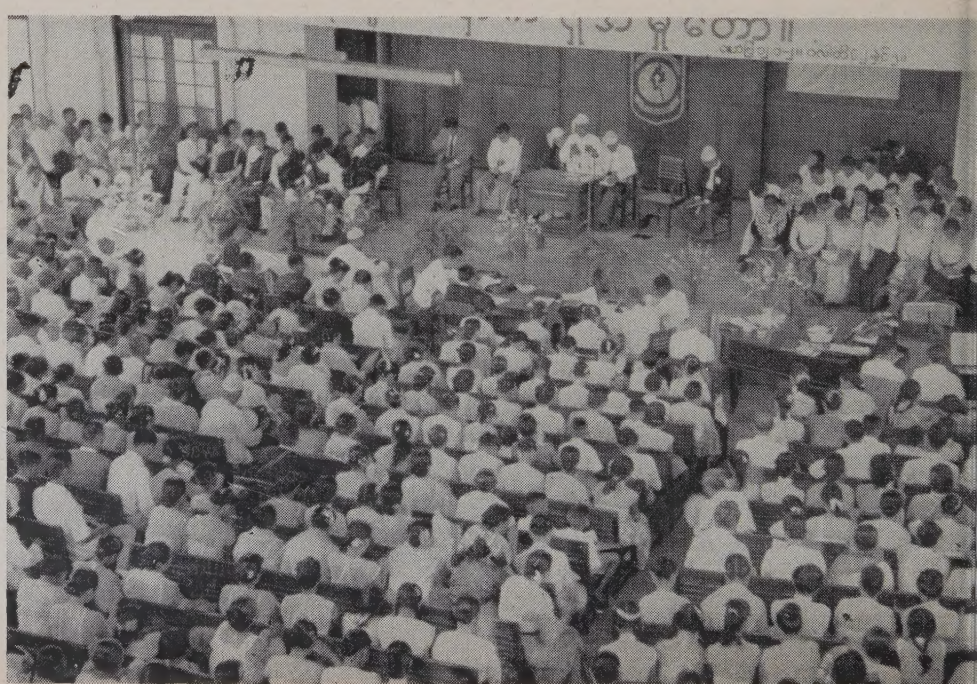
The staff at the Asho Chin Leadership Training Conference, sponsored by the Burma Baptist Christian Endeavor Union.

Burmese young people like to sing! Here Endeavorers practice a choir anthem.

Football—Burma style! Another favorite sport among Endeavorers in Burma is badminton. Tournaments are organized and many young people participate.

RIGHT—Delegates gather in convention.

BELOW—Learning to sew as part of the weekday Christian Endeavor Center program.



Plan NOW for a HIGH PLATEAU In Church Activities

DOES the church program follow a level of high plateaus of response and loyalty, interrupted by deep valleys of diminished attendance and declining interest?

Your church might be different, but in a large number of churches the year divides into four seasons, such as the following:

Labor Day to Christmas: Planning and restaffing throughout the volunteers' program; improved attendance and participation in all phases of church work; emphasis on fellowship; new individuals and families reached, often through the fellowship programs; launching of leadership training courses and other special educational activities.

Christmas through Easter: Stronger spiritual emphases than in the preceding weeks; devotional interest intensified and widespread in the Christmas season, with evangelism, stewardship and recommitment strongly supported in the pre-Easter weeks; educational programs and training for service proving effective, since the interest of both teachers and pupils is evident; new workers and leaders often enter the church program in this period, and plans may be recast because of these added resources.

Easter until "hot weather": Conforming to the individual's 4 o'clock letdown in office or industrial plant, attendance and participation take downward courses *unless* by advance planning the after-Easter gatherings and service projects have been made particularly significant.

"Hot weather," or vacation, months: Lessened attendances are inevitable, because of vacations, but summer months can stimulate several phases of the volunteer program in the church (as outlined in this column in the June-July 1957 and June-July 1956 issues).

OUR planning in Christian volunteer work should be directed toward spreading the periods of strong response and effective service, so that interest and support flourish over more than a few months at a time. We're gratified when a large portion of a congregation flocks to the church for one service or gathering after another, in the weeks from Christmas through Easter. But let us aim at prolonging this period, extending this high plateau of participation that began under the Christmas lights.

We begin as early as December to work toward such ends. Young adults, in projecting the group program, might *now* date a particularly interesting series of meetings and a sequence of service activities to commence shortly before Easter, continuing into May and June. These could be the weeks in which classes for committee workers and leaders are conducted, leading to practical experience for these members during the summer months that follow.

We come then into the season when outdoor activities are practicable and popular. Consequently, some class sessions and periodic meetings for young adults will be scheduled at parks, gardens and summer cottages.

Service activities for less-chance families might include helping prepare and plant a vegetable garden and arranging for help in tending it through the summer.

We need not forego the indoor parties for children of the community but add to the program at least one outdoor picnic and field day.

The young adults' cooperation with a city mission's program will not lapse after Easter, but will be broadened to include outdoor evangelistic meetings and well planned excursions to farms or picnic spots outside the congested area.

Fellowship meetings with out-of-town groups are all the more enjoyable in the weeks of late spring and early summer.

A party to honor high school graduates could be added to the young adults' yearly program.

As the public school year ends, it becomes possible to plan for family suppers and early-evening programs to which young couples bring their children. A play program for children may be conducted by volunteers while parents are sharing in a discussion and devotional program.

Remember that other organizations, outside the churches, curtail their programs in May and June. For week-night events you can now count on bowlers and other winter-sports enthusiasts, leaders in secular organizations and students in night-time college courses to swell your numbers.

So resolve now not to discount the weeks following Easter (April 17). As young adults, set a forward-program example to your home church. Keep the church strongly in action for many more months of the year, from Christmas onward.

By BERT H. DAVIS

THE EVERLASTING LIGHT

Worldwide Bible Reading

Thanksgiving to Christmas 1959

From Thanksgiving to Christmas the American Bible Society is sponsoring its 16th annual Worldwide Bible Reading program. The Scriptures listed below will be used by millions around the world.

"In the darkest night there still shines the everlasting light of God's truth."

NOVEMBER

26 Thanksgiving	Psalm 103:1-22
27	Psalm 23:1-6
28	Psalm 46:1-11
29 Advent Sunday	Acts 9:1-9
30	Romans 5:1-21

DECEMBER

1	Romans 8:1-17
2	Romans 8:18-39
3	Romans 12:1-21
4	I Corinthians 13:1-13
5	Acts 9:10-31
6 Sunday	Matthew 5:1-16
7	Matthew 5:17-32
8	Matthew 5:33-48
9	Matthew 6:1-15
10	Matthew 6:16-34
11	Matthew 7:1-12
12	Matthew 7:13-28
13 Universal Bible Sunday	Acts 10:30-48
14	Isaiah 9:2-7
15	Isaiah 11:1-9
16	Isaiah 35:1-10
17	Isaiah 40:1-11
18	Isaiah 42:1-13
19	Acts 11:19-30
20 Sunday	Luke 2:1-20
21	Isaiah 53:1-12
22	Isaiah 55:1-13
23	Isaiah 61:1-11
24	Jeremiah 31:31-37
25 Christmas	Matthew 2:1-12

For the last six days of the year, these passages are recommended:

26	I Corinthians 15:15-38
27 Sunday	Acts 12:1-17
28	Galatians 6:1-10
29	Ephesians 4:1-16
30	Philippians 2:1-18
31	Hebrews 11:1-16

Make Bible reading a daily practice! Keep the Quiet Hour regularly.

COMING EVENTS

For Your Prayer Calendar

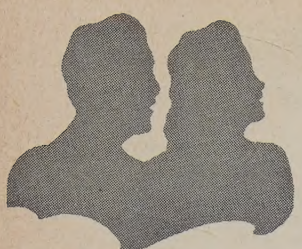
Here is a list of Christian Endeavor conventions and conferences which will be held in the next few months. Remember these events in your daily Quiet Hour.

NOVEMBER

6-8 —Farber, Missouri

DECEMBER

3-6 —Executives' Program Council, Columbus, Ohio



Biblical Road Signs

No. 1 in a Series: "Prophets Point the Way"

Genesis 12:1-3

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years) *DECEMBER 6*

*Comments by Dr. Lawrence M. Bixler**

Advertising the Meeting

Make a poster using the theme of the meeting. On it picture a guidepost pointing to "victory over sin and suffering." The Scripture texts which are to be used in the meeting may appear on the poster. The place and time of meeting should occupy a prominent place on it.

Purpose of the Meeting

It is the intent of this meeting to point out God's plan for the ages which culminated in sending His own Son Jesus Christ. There are a number of high points in the realization or fulfillment of this plan in the historical situation.

Planning for the Meeting

Use a rather complete Bible concordance and note the number of times in the New Testament that reference is made to the law and the prophets as being the foundation of the Gospel or that Christ is said to have fulfilled that which was written by the prophets. Look at the references under "fulfilled." Also note the references under "prophet" or "prophets." This will help one to appreciate the fact that the coming of Christ must be seen against its historical background. When it is so viewed it becomes more meaningful and significant.

Suggested Order of Service

Pre-Prayer Service
Prelude
Call to Worship: Hebrews 4:14-16
Guided silent prayers
Hymn: *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* (Use verses 1,2,4 and 5.)
Scripture: Genesis 12:1-3; Galatians 3:16-22
Prayer
Special Music or Hymn: *Then Jesus Came*
Leader's Talk
Discussion
Hymn: *I Will Sing the Wondrous Story*
Benediction

Leader's Talk

The lesson this evening is the first of two topics designed to lead up to Christmas by looking at the prophecies which gave meaning to the coming of Christ. We want to see the foundations for the Messianic hope that was to be found in Israel, and for that matter among many other peoples, at the time that Jesus came.

As one reads the Old Testament, some interesting facts can be discovered with regard to the word "Messiah" or "anointed one." The term "Messiah" referring to the Saviour appears nowhere in the Old Testament except in Daniel. It does, however, appear in the New Testament. But does this mean that the Messianic hope has no foundation in the Old Testament? Most certainly not.

*Dr. Bixler is professor of Bible and Christian Education at Northwest Christian College, Eugene, Oregon.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why is it important that we know the Old Testament background for the coming of Christ? In what sense could He be "Messiah" without this knowledge?
2. Some would affirm that Genesis 3:15 and 12:1-3 are not "Messianic" at all. Would you agree? If so, why? If not, why not?
3. If God gave these signposts of Christ's coming, why did His own people reject Him?

The Messianic hope has foundations in the very beginning of the Bible, that is if one conceives the Messianic hope in terms of the realization of God's purpose and plan to redeem man from sin and death. God revealed His plan and purposes to man as man was capable of receiving them. Therefore, we can say that the Messianic hope was an organic thing.

In the beginning it was general as to time and manner of fulfillment, but as the time for the coming of the Saviour approached it became more specific. There are several guideposts that God placed along man's pathway. These were revealed by God to help man as he struggled against the consequences of sin in this existence. Let us look at some of these guideposts.

Promise of Victory Over Sin

In the third chapter of Genesis we have the account of the entrance of sin into the world. In this account is a statement of the consequences of sin. It is in the form of the curses pronounced upon the earth, the man, the woman and the serpent.

There is a tendency on the part of some in our secular society to repudiate not only the Genesis account but also the fact of sin itself. Those who do this see in man the power to free himself from every human woe. The secular optimism of the first half of the twentieth century has not found justification in the real life of man. Man has not only not been able to free himself from the things which created fear and suffering in the past, but he has actually brought into being powers that have created new ones.

Man has, from Adam's time on, faced the reality of sin. Is there any hope for man? God revealed that there is. God said to the serpent that had been instrumental in the temptation and sin of Adam and Eve, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel. (R.S.V.)." Set forth in these words are three important facts of human experience: (1) conflict, (2) suffering, and (3) a hope. It is a hope because it is the promise of victory through the "seed of the woman."

While this passage does not mention the words Messiah or Saviour, it is the foundation stone upon which the doctrine of the Messiah is built. There are three important truths in this passage: (1) God cared enough about man to act. (2) This conflict was to be between the seed of the serpent and the seed of the woman. (3) The seed of the woman would triumph.

How does Christ fulfill these predictions? Read Galatians 4:1-4; II Corinthians 5:16-21 and Romans 8:1-4 and point out how Christ fulfilled the purpose of God to redeem man through the seed of the woman. Point out how even the law did not fulfill this purpose.

God's Covenant with Abraham

A second signpost in the Old Testament which pointed toward the coming of Christ was God's covenant with Abraham. Read Genesis 12:1-4 and note carefully the promises made to Abraham (or Abram as he was then called). Note also what Abraham was asked to do. Then compare Acts 3:24-26. In whom was the promise of the Abrahamic covenant fulfilled? In what way are all families of the earth blessed? Read Galatians 3:6-9. What made Abraham righteous? How are we blessed along with Abraham?

The prediction of the seed of Abraham which should bless all families of the earth was in general terms; i.e., the exact time and place of the coming was not stated. But it was specific enough that only Jesus really fulfilled it. God's purpose is declared to Isaac, Jacob and to their descendants.

Since the covenant made with Abraham included his seed, it is quite understandable that God should renew the covenant with Isaac and with Jacob. Through Jacob's family the nation arose that was promised to Abraham. The nation was not an end in itself. It was to make the Lord's will and purpose known to all nations and families. The nation as a whole failed in that both leaders and people turned aside to idolatry. The prophets declared that because of this the nation was to be carried into exile. But out of the remnant of this nation the Messiah would come. The message of the prophets and the Messianic hope of Israel could not have had meaning except in the light of God's covenant with Israel.

PACKETS NOW AVAILABLE FOR 1960 CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WEEK

Colorful packets, full of helps for the celebration of Christian Endeavor's 79th birthday, are now in distribution. Brand new items included are samples of attractive place mats and napkins, matching the 1960 bulletin covers. Societies and unions need these packets to plan an effective anniversary observance January 31-February 7, 1960. Order now from Christian Endeavor Headquarters in Columbus. Just 50c each.

Thinking with the Psalmist

Psalm 1; Psalm 23

Junior High (12-14 Years) *DECEMBER 6*

*Comments by Dr. Raymond M. Veh**

Your Poster

Draw a basket of fruit on a cardboard. Under the drawing state: "Tonight's Christian Endeavor meeting will be fruitful. There's something for everybody as we 'Think with the Psalmist'."

Your Worship

Use these hymns: *There's a New Day Dawning, Living for Jesus, This Is My Father's World.*

For Scripture the 23rd Psalm may be assigned according to the verses in a blackboard exercise:

POSSESSION v. 1.
POSITION v. 2.
PROGRESS v. 3.
PRESENCE v. 4.
PROVISION v. 5.
PROSPECT v. 6.

A Resolve Service might conclude the presentation of the topic. Each Endeavorer would select one psalm as a favorite and attempt to memorize it and gain its basic truths.

Searchlight on the Psalms

The Book of Psalms is one of the choice and excellent presentations of truth in literature of all time. So much is there in it of Christ and His Gospel, as well as of God and His law, that it has been called the summary of both Testaments. The messages speak so simply and directly to the universal heart.

People of all races delight in the Psalms because here they see a common level. The Book of Psalms contains the whole music of the heart of man, swept by the hand of his Maker.

Let's select some gems which the psalmist has given to us that we might think with him and get the messages he would have us know.

Psalm 121

This psalm's very essence is simplicity, for it contains no startling metaphors and no fresh truth. And yet there is a warm glow in its message, and there is a fragrance in its simple trust, which has made it one of the best loved of all the psalms.

When our difficulties and dangers are greatest we should not flee, because we are safe where we are. The powerful and treacherous assaults of earth should not terrify us, because the invisible resources of heaven are at our disposal. The dangers may be real and personal, but so is our Keeper. His protection will make us safe in every respect.

Bobby was awakened by a terrible dream. Through the darkness came the sobs; finally he was heard to cry, "Daddy, I'm afraid." The father arose, went to the bedside and took hold of the trembling little hands. The fright was soon gone and the little fellow was heard to say, "Daddy, I'm not afraid now, for you have hold of my hand." The Christian lives a protected life because God's hand is upon him.

*Dr. Veh is editor of BUILDERS, Evangelical United Brethren youth magazine.

OUR AIMS

1. To gain appreciation for the Book of Psalms.
2. To stress the fact that God made man for happiness.
3. To know that the message of the psalms exalts our God as one who is full of love and understanding and cares for His people.

QUESTIONS

1. What is your favorite psalm? Why?
2. Do the thoughts of the 90th Psalm sadden you?
3. What influences around us tend to lead us astray?
4. What causes have we for praise and singing?
5. What lessons about God may we learn from nature?
6. What blessings make your cup overflow?
7. What proofs have we of God's shepherding love and power?
8. How can we discover the will of God for us?

Psalm 1

This is called the "Guideboard Psalm." The "First Psalm" has been fittingly called the prologue to the Psalter, and it was by a happy inspiration that this psalm was chosen to introduce the book.

In the Book of Psalms many voices are heard—voices of faith and voices of doubt, voices of joy and voices of sorrow, voices of victory and voices of defeat—from men whose faith was strained and whose hearts were breaking; from men whose "steps had well nigh slipped" and whose soul was cast down and disquieted within them.

The First Psalm is an answer to all these voices; it expresses in advance the assurance that, despite all discouragements, it is well with good men, for blessed is the man that is righteous before God.

Psalm 91

This is the Hebrew Psalm of eternity. It was written by Moses upon occasion of the sentence passed upon Israel in the wilderness for their unbelief, murmuring and rebellion. It was told them that their carcasses should fall in the wilderness, that they should be wasted away by a series of miseries for 38 years together, and that none of them that were then of age should enter Canaan.

Probably Moses penned this prayer, to be daily used, either by the people in their tents or, at least, by the priests in the tabernacle service, during their tedious fatigue in the wilderness. Though it seems to have been written for this particular occasion, yet it is very applicable to human life in general. At the threshold of a new year, we may easily apply it to the years of our passage through the wilderness of this world.

Psalm 145

This is called the Testimony Psalm for it is a personal testimony that David makes concerning his God. It is one of a series of psalms composed by David that abounds in praise. That the Book of Psalms concludes with psalms of praise and thanksgiving should suggest to us a fitting close for our lives.

The Psalmist believes that there will always be some who will have a testimony for God. "One generation shall praise thy works to another." The generation that is growing old shall tell the new generation that is just rising up, and the generation that is just rising up shall follow the example of that which is going off; so that the death of God's worshippers shall cause no lack of His worship.

Psalm 23

One of the things of which we never tire is the Shepherd Psalm. More people love that poem than any poem ever written. More people know that poem than any poem that was ever written. People have read that psalm or repeated it, while the tears flowed down their cheeks. People have loved that poem in the midst of distress, discouragement, and sorrow. People have pillowed their weary heads upon its precious promises in the time of affliction and death.

Psalms 103-104

These are great nature psalms. It is probable that the 103rd and 104th Psalms were written together. The scope of Psalm 103 was to celebrate the goodness of God and His tender mercy and compassion; the purpose of Psalm 104 is to celebrate His greatness and majesty, and His sovereign dominion over all the earth. In one psalm, God is praised as the God of grace; in Psalm 104 He is praised as the God of nature.

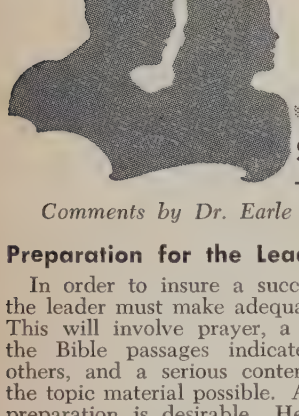
Psalm 96

Here is the singing psalm. Sacred music reached its highest point during the time of David, who was not only an immortal poet but an inspired musician. During David's reign a great choir of some four thousand musicians and vocalists was gathered and trained; great religious music festivals were organized and systematic praise became a permanent feature of Hebrew worship.

The 96th Psalm has reference to the bringing up of the ark to the city of David. But it looks further than that and sees the coming of the Kingdom of Christ, and it is designed to celebrate the glories of that Kingdom, especially the accession of the Gentiles to it. We are here required to give praise to God and to sing forth the honor due His name.

Psalm 40

This is called the "Life Obedience Psalm." David penned this psalm upon the occasion of his deliverance by the power and goodness of God. Some great and pressing trouble seemed well-nigh to overwhelm him. In his trouble, he called upon God and was delivered. He hints of the work of our redemption by Christ. The Lord filled David with joy and peace. He finds courage to pray to God for mercy and grace, both for himself and his friends. Our faithfulness to God should be our expression of gratitude.



Prophetic Spotlight

No. 2 in a Series: "Prophets Point the Way"

Isaiah 7:14; 9:6,7; 53:3-12

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years) *DECEMBER 13*

*Comments by Dr. Earle W. Gates**

Preparation for the Leader

In order to insure a successful meeting, the leader must make adequate preparation. This will involve prayer, a study both of the Bible passages indicated above and others, and a serious contemplation of all the topic material possible. Always advance preparation is desirable. He may wish to consult his minister or Bible teacher on this vast and important subject.

It should be the leader's aim to focus the attention of each member upon Jesus Christ, causing all to remember the real reason for Christmas. He may be the one to lead his associates to a Christ-centered Christmas. Let it be remembered throughout this topic that the spotlight of prophecy is being put upon the Christ. May each one be enabled to see Him anew and be led to follow the light of His teaching. This is the leader's high challenge.

Aim of the Topic

To see the birth of Christ as the fulfillment of ancient prophecy, and as the fulfillment of present need.

Prophets Point the Way

Last week the topic pointed to the road signs of prophecy. From the beginning of Genesis to the close of the Revelation, Christ is found in every book of the Bible in some form, directly or indirectly. Some portions point to the need and the hope for a Messiah, some to His actual coming, and some to the fruition of God's plan and power through Him. The recurrence of the Messianic note through the Scriptures is a satisfying confirmation of their authenticity and divine origin. A rewarding study can be made by tracing them down, at least through the Old Testament, reading carefully each passage pertaining to His coming and ministry. With these many references as background, let us turn the spotlight directly upon Him as the Promised One of God.

Titles of the Messiah

The Scripture passages for this topic give an interesting picture of the various names and titles applied to Christ. Each has a distinct meaning, and each fits into the prophetic pattern. A great insight is given here to His divine purpose.

1. *(Read Isaiah 7:14.) Immanuel*—This name means "God with us." The verse prophesies the Virgin Birth.
2. *(Read Isaiah 9:6.)* "For unto us a child is born, unto us a *Son* is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His Name shall be called *Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*" Note the names and how descriptive they are. Discuss the meaning of each, and how Christ can minister to us today in these capacities.
3. Other names have been given Jesus, in both Old and New Testaments. How many can you name now?

*Dr. Gates is minister of First Church of Evans, Derby, New York, and immediate past president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor.

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

1. Why was it necessary for Jesus to come to earth?
2. What did His coming accomplish?
3. Name the details of the birth of Christ foretold by the prophets.
4. Name several of the Old Testament prophets.
5. What is the meaning of the name "Messiah"?
6. Why do we observe Christmas?
7. What should we do to prepare ourselves for a meaningful Christmas?
8. Can we have "Christianity" without Christ?
9. What do you think would be the reaction of the prophets if they could see the contemporary commercialized observance of Christmas?
10. Why should we not spell Christmas as "Xmas"?

Power of the Messiah

Isaiah 9:7 is breath-taking in its expanse and its promise. There shall be no limitation of His rule, or of His power to govern. His peace is to be endless. The "throne of David" is a definite historical phrase, as specific as "throne of the Caesars," etc. Judgment and justice are proclaimed, not only as possibility, but as future reality. How much this meant to a people in bondage! And "the zeal of the Lord of hosts" will make it possible; this is the promise!

The growth and spread of the faith is here, a veritable preview of the Kingdom. Assuredly, the people of Israel had a clear pattern of His coming prepared for them. It is strange that they so misunderstood Him when God presented Him to the world.

Birth of the Messiah

A spotlight from another angle is focused by the prophet Micah. In his writings *(Read Micah 5:2)* he fixes even the geographic location where Jesus will be born to earth. Centuries in advance His birth is foretold, some of the circumstances described, His titles and names are given, and even the place named. The Gospels of the New Testament describe in detail how even Roman law was used to bring about the movement of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem for the advent of the Messiah. Truly Jesus the Christ was no accident of birth; neither was He an ordinary man. The Son of God came by a well-blazed trail.

Life and Death of the Messiah

The spotlight of prophecy not only points us to the coming of Christ, making His birth a new and revealing miracle annually; but it also focuses sharply and brilliantly upon His beautiful life and character, setting for us a perfect pattern of spiritual stature. With equal clarity it shows us His sacrificial death upon the cross, together with the benefits conferred upon us by this gift of life. *(Read Psalm 22 for an interesting comparison with the words uttered at the Cross.)*

A study of the 53rd Chapter of Isaiah is astounding. It reads as though it had been written *after* the Crucifixion and Resurrection, so accurately does it describe the nature, the suffering, and the accomplishments of the Saviour. It tells the kind of person He was; it describes the method and degree of His punishment and suffering. It declares the fullness of our Redemption—yet it was written many centuries in advance. This chapter sounds more like a New Testament excerpt than parts of the New Testament itself. The death of Jesus, its meaning, and its purpose stand out here in sharp relief.

Isaiah is distinctively the prophet of redemption. He is justly considered the chief of the writing prophets. Nowhere else in the Scriptures written under the law do we have so clear a view of grace. We are indebted to this one of God's chosen for the best advance revelation of the Person of the Messiah, and of the blessing of the Gentiles through Him. Discuss the similarity between Isaiah 53 and the Gospels.

"Being . . . Became"

Referring to Christ's glory before His incarnation and His humility after His incarnation, St. Paul uses the words "being" and "became." The true and full Christmas story is the story of who and what Christ was, and who and what He became for the sake of our salvation. Let us consider then these things in careful study.

BEING	BECAME	REFERENCE
"In the form of God"	"In the likeness of men"	Phil. 2:6,7
"Mighty God"	Helpless Babe	Isa. 9:6
Creator	Creature	Col. 1:15,16
Master	Slave	John 13:13
"Lord from heaven"	"Servant"	I Cor. 15:47
"Better than angels"	"Lower than angels"	Heb. 1:4 Heb. 2:9
"Son of God"	"Son of man"	Dan. 3:25 Luke 19:10
"Altogether lovely"	"Marred more than any man"	S. of Sol. 5:16 Isa. 52:14
"Rich"	"Poor"	II Cor. 8:9
Without sin	"Made sin for us"	II Cor. 5:21
Glorified	"Mocked"	John 17:5

The Spotlight Shines on Us

All of the spotlights of prophecy that focus upon the Saviour of mankind likewise bring their light to us. Out of the need of man and the love of God came the concept of salvation. As God beheld man's quenchless thirst for redemption, He presented His own Son as the way.

As John 3:16 became an established reality, the Son's proclamation likewise became reality. He had said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." It was of us He spoke. We may become sons of God by the acceptance of the promise of John 1:12. All of this is in our behalf. Verily, in Him we too have life.

The Prophets Point the Way

Isaiah 7:14; 9:6,7; 53:3-12
(Universal Bible Sunday)

Junior High (12-14 Years) *DECEMBER 13*

*Comments by Dr. Jerome DeJong**

The Theme of This Topic

This is Universal Bible Sunday. The purpose of this topic is to show the unique character of the Bible and of Bible prophecy. It is important for the leader to remember that many young people may think of the Bible something like Shakespeare — good for its time but now out of date. Try to show by your own enthusiasm for the belief that the Bible has a message for 1959.

A Companion

Have someone in the society read the following paragraphs:

Skull-of-the-Shadfish, cooked in oil;
Apply to the point of the splinter
Thereby it comes out.
or, for a burn
"O Son, Horus! There is Fire in the land!
Water is not there and thou art not there!
Bring Water over the River-Bank to
quench the Fire."
(cures a burn)

(Story of Surgery, Graham p. 37-38)

Isn't this strange? It is a medical remedy that was written *3,000* years ago. It sounds strange to us because modern medical science has made this remedy out-of-date.

Now have someone read Psalm 23. Does this sound out-of-date? And yet it was written almost 3,000 years ago. The difference lies in the fact that one is the Word of God and the other is not.

The Bible

There is something very strange about the Bible. It is old and yet it is new. The first books have been variously dated, but let us assume for the sake of discussion that the earliest book is 1500 B.C., and the latest book 100 A.D. That is a period of 1600 years. There are 66 books and many different authors. Yet there is a real, basic unity in the Bible.

Inspiration

Christians believe that the Bible is inspired. That is, "It is God-breathed." There is much difference of opinion as to just what this means. However, there is agreement that God has Himself inspired this book and the message it gives is true and cannot be mistaken when it directs us to God.

Prophecy and Inspiration

One of the marks of inspiration is the fulfillment of the prophecies of Scripture. The Bible itself suggests that the test of a true prophet is to be found in whether or not the things he says are being fulfilled.

Pause here for a moment and ask if anyone present knows the task of a prophet. This may be easily remembered in two words that sound almost alike, *foretell* and *forthtell.*

*Dr. DeJong is minister of the Immanuel Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

We usually think of a prophet as someone who could tell about the future. Although this was an important job, we must not forget that a prophet was also a preacher to his own day, telling of the will of God for the people. Isaiah, for example, who spoke so much of the coming of God's Messiah certainly spoke many messages of warning to his own people.

Basic Unity of Scripture

The prophets point up the great truth that there is a basic unity in the Scriptures. The Bible, although divided into 66 books, nevertheless has a basic message of unity which binds the whole together. This you would not find in any other book published over such a long period of time.

What is the basic unity of Scripture? The basic unity of the Bible is found in the person of Jesus Christ. Have someone read Hebrews 1:1,2. God spoke in time past by the prophets and now He speaks in the finished work of His dear Son.

The fact that all the prophets gave witness to Him is the most amazing truth of the Bible. The person of the coming Saviour is clearly predicted in the Old Testament. One must be very careful that he does not find Christ in every verse and every line, through unusual interpretations of Scripture, yet He is really there and His work is predicted.

Our Lord's Birthplace

Have one person read Micah 5:2 and another read Matthew 2:4-6. You must remember that Micah lived about 730 years before our Lord's birth. How do you explain this text article of inspiration? Maybe, someone will say, it was a good guess on Micah's part.

Why didn't he choose an important city like Jerusalem, or Capernaum? This can be explained only by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

The Saviour's Birth

Have someone read Isaiah 7:14 and another Matthew 1:23. Here again is an amazing illustration of the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. This passage clearly predicts the virgin birth of Christ. There is some discussion on the translation of the Old Testament passage. However, there is no question at all in the translation of the New Testament.

Here is an instance where a prophecy has a meaning for the day in which it was written and for a future day. Remember that Isaiah lived about 700 years before Matthew was written.

Jesus' Ministry

Have Isaiah 9:1,2 read and then Matthew 4:12-16. There are many illustrations to be found in the Bible of the ministry of our Lord. He Himself referred to Isaiah 61:1,2 and said that this was now fulfilled. We are obviously dealing again with prophecy under God's inspiring Spirit.

The Triumphal Entry

Have someone read Zechariah 9:9. Before the complementary passage is read have someone guess to what this prophecy makes reference. The prediction is so clear. Now have someone read John 12:13-15. Zechariah lived about 500 B. C.

Jesus' Death

Without announcement have someone read Isaiah 53:3,4,5 and 12. Ask, "Where do you find this passage in the New Testament?"

The purpose of this question is to show that the Old Testament prophet is so clearly New Testament in character that it is difficult sometimes to remember that this is still an Old Testament prophecy written many hundreds of years before.

Now read Matthew 27:38. What is the point of this prediction? He is numbered with transgressors. How did the writer know that the Saviour would be crucified between two thieves? This, of course, was only possible through the Holy Spirit.

Jesus' Resurrection

Have Psalm 16:10 read and then Matthew 28:6-9. This prediction is a bit harder to understand. The resurrection, as a fact, is not as clearly taught in the Old Testament as in the New, yet it is there. This is probably part of the reason why it is sometimes said,

"The New is in the Old contained,
The Old is by the New explained."

Purpose of This Unity

This study has helped us to see the basic unity of the Bible. The question now is, why do the prophets point the way? What difference does it make that these prophecies are so?

Have someone read John 20:31. The purpose of the Scripture is to reveal the Christ, that knowing Him we might believe and have faith in His name.

Worship Suggestions

It is customary in many churches to read both an Old Testament and a New Testament Scripture lesson. If your church has a liturgy ask your pastor if he will show you the order of Scripture lessons. This points up the relation of the Old to the New.

For this service choose a complementary lesson such as Joel 2:28-32 and Acts 2:1-6. Such hymns as *I Will Sing the Wondrous Story* or *The Church's One Foundation* are applicable.

Hymns listed in program outlines in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected from CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS. This book, with an attractive red and white paper cover, contains 113 songs and hymns for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio. Price: 50c each, $5 per dozen, $40 per hundred.

Giving Is Glorious

John 3:14-21
(Christmas Sunday)

*Comments by Mabel Culter**

Planning Your Meeting

1. One of the important things to be considered in every Christian Endeavor meeting is that there shall be a vital message presented which is both spiritual and practical for the age of young people involved.

2. Another important factor in a good Christian Endeavor meeting is to so plan your meeting that it will keep the interest and full attention of each one present.

3. The third factor is to so plan your meeting that you will have as many individuals as possible taking part in the meeting, thus giving each a bit of training as well as a chance to serve. The following program is so built that many can take part. Each story and each reference should be given to a different person.

Aim

The purpose of this meeting is to lead the young people to relate all giving to a personal relationship to God.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Opening Prayer
Introduction of Topic (by leader)
Hymns: *My Saviour's Love; The Love of God*
Scripture (by Leader and eight Endeavorers)
Leader: God gave His Son for us
Endeavorer: John 3:16
Leader: We should give ourselves
Endeavorer: II Corinthians 8:5
Leader: God gives us His love
Endeavorer: Galatians 2:20
Leader: Christ gave tears for the lost
Endeavorer: Luke 19:41
Leader: Have we wept for the lost?
(A moment of silence)
Leader: Putting it in reverse, we ask—
Endeavorer: James 1:6
Leader: And God's response is—
Endeavorer: John 16:23,24
Leader: Give to less fortunate
Endeavorer: Proverbs 3:27
Leader: God's response
Endeavorer: Matthew 25:34-40
Duet: *When I Kneel Down to Pray*
Prayer
Hymns: *Amazing Grace; No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus*
Topic Presentation
Hymn: *Give of Your Best to the Master*
Prayer and Dedication Period
Benediction

Gifts of Time

We usually think of giving as connected with money or material presents. But there are other kinds of giving which also please the Lord and are beneficial to others.

*Miss Culter is the founder of Culter Academy, Los Angeles, California, and has just returned to Korea where she will take over a Bible-Vocational School under The Evangelical Alliance Mission.

I have but little, Lord, to give
Of this world's golden store
No jewels rare, nor coins of gold,
But, Lord, I Thee adore.

E'en self is empty, shallow, vain
My pride I do abhor
I have no fame or talents great
But, Lord, I Thee adore.

So, now I give myself to Thee
I can not give Thee more.
Not gold nor fame but only self
For, Lord, I Thee adore.

One important kind of giving, which should never have in mind a return, is the giving of time for the study of God's Word. However, we will find our hearts aglow as we let Him talk to us through that Word (Luke 24:32).

Another important giving is taking time to pray. Shut yourself, your problem and the Lord in the closet together (II Kings 4:33). When we pray others are affected (Ezra 10:1). When we pray for others we are blessed (Job 42:10). Nothing is too hard for God (Jeremiah 32:17). Daniel trusted God and did not fear man (Daniel 6:10). When Daniel started to pray, God started to answer (Daniel 9:3,4,20-23). As He prayed His countenance was changed (II Corinthians 3:18). Paul and Silas prayed and the place was shaken (Acts 16:25,26).

Many years ago a Chinese gentleman who was famed for his ability to get answers to prayer was sought out by many of the other Chinese Christians and by many missionaries with prayer requests for Ding Li May to lay before the Lord.

It was his habit to get up in the middle of the night to pray. When asked why he did not stay up later or get up earlier, he replied, "I just want the Lord to myself."

Of course, he did not take into account that the other half of the world was awake, but to him it meant a very personal relationship between him and the Heavenly Father.

When we come into that deep, rich personal fellowship with the Lord in the hour of prayer, then we too will know the joy of answered prayer. The giving of our time to prayer is glorious.

Giving Money to God

One cent will put one Gospel in Portugal. Five dollars will place 500 Gospels there.

When we think of the effectiveness of the spread of God's Word we think of the dog in Shanghai, China, that picked up a single sheet of a Gospel in its mouth and carried it into an army camp. It was a part of the story of the prodigal son. The soldier was so interested and wanted to know the rest of the story so he hunted until he found a missionary and the result was his conversion and the founding of a large Bible class. We never know the impact of even a small portion of God's Word.

Giving His Word

One dollar will pay for one minute of radio broadcast time on the mission field. Ten dollars will pay for ten minutes.

If the leader can have a map of the world on the board and then place little radio towers on the following missionary radio spots, HCJB, Ecuador; ELWA, Liberia; HLKX, Korea; and others, it will be thrilling to see that almost anywhere in the world there is a blanket of God's message spread out into the atmosphere. Anyone with a receiving set can reach out and take it in. Forty dollars will furnish a radio set which can cover a whole village in Africa.

A Greater Gift

A speaker in a church service gave a powerful message so clear and urgent for the dedication of not only money but lives unto the Lord, every one was deeply moved. However, there was a small boy in the audience who had no money but his heart was strangely stirred.

When the usher came to his pew, the little fellow asked the usher to hold the plate a little lower, and then a little lower. When he got it clear down to the floor the boy stepped into the plate and said, "I don't have any money but I want to give myself."

How many of us will really do that?

The Greatest Gift

The most glorious gift of all was the Saviour Himself, whose birthday we celebrate at this season. The Father "—spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things" (Romans 8:32). Man was born in a lost state *(Read John 3:18)*. Jesus is the only Saviour (Acts 4:12). All who receive Him will be saved (John 1:12; John 5:24). The results of salvation are found in II Corinthians 5:17 and John 10:28.

Since the coming of our Saviour to this earth, as He gave Himself, is so glorious what could be more glorious than for us to give our hearts first to Him and then give our lives in loving devotion to Him to be used in helping to spread this wonderful news of Salvation?

Summary

To sum up—
Give without looking for return
Give generously
Give cheerfully
Give with love and devotion to God

Let us give—
Our hearts' devotion
Our lives' service
Our time for Bible study and prayer
Our tithes plus offerings
Our lips to tell the way of salvation

Luke Tells the Story

Luke 2:1-7,25-35
(Christmas Sunday)

Junior High (12-14 Years) *DECEMBER 20*

*Comments by Mrs. Aldis L. Webb**

Planning the Meeting

Assign the parts of the program well in advance, and be sure to ask the boys and girls taking part to meet with you a few minutes before the meeting, that you may have a circle of prayer together.

For a simple poster to advertise the meeting draw an elaborate star in the upper left hand corner, shedding its light over the poster. Across the center print the words, "Unto you is born a Saviour" (Luke 2:11). In the space that is left arrange the name of the society and time of meeting. Use glitter on star and rays.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Prelude: *Silent Night*
Leader: Luke 2:13,14
Group: John 3:16
Hymn: *Joy to the World*
Prayer
Announcements and Offering
Leader's Introduction
Lesson Presentation and Discussion
Reading: *The Inn That Missed Its Chance*
Hymn: *Just As I Am, Thine Own To Be*
Decision Time
Sentence Prayers, thanking God for His unspeakable Gift and asking that He may find more room in all our hearts
Chorus: *Into My Heart*
Benediction

Leader's Talk

The books Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are all accounts of the life of Jesus. Each one of them was written for a different and for a definite purpose.

Matthew was written to the Jews to show them that Jesus was the long-promised Messiah, the King; Mark shows Him to be the Servant; and John pictures Him as the Divine Son of God. Luke, the author whose story we study tonight, shows Jesus to be the Son of Man. In other words, Jesus was human as well as divine. He was the Son of Mary and the Son of God.

It is very important for us to realize that He was human as well as divine, because then we know that He understands our temptations and our weaknesses better. While He was here in the flesh He was tempted just the same as we are, and because He overcame He can help us to overcome (I Corinthians 10:13).

Luke tells us in the very beginning of his book (read it) that he wrote to give a connected and orderly account of the life of Jesus as seen by eye-witnesses. Luke was a physician, and he writes from the standpoint of a physician.

Gabriel Visits Mary

It was the time in history when Rome was ruling the world. God, in the fullness of time, was going to send His only Son into the world to redeem the world. God chose to send His Son as a little child to live in a human home. There must be a mother for the Child.

In a little village in Galilee called Nazareth there lived a humble young peasant girl called Mary. One day a very wonderful thing happened to her. God sent His messenger, Gabriel, to visit her and to tell her that she had been chosen of God to be the mother of the Child who was to be the Saviour for whom the Jewish people had been looking for many centuries.

Mary was filled with wonderment. How did it happen that she, of all other young women, should be chosen for this blessed experience? Gabriel assured Mary that God was in the whole event, and that with God nothing was impossible.

*Mrs. Webb is a long-time Endeavorer from Tillamook, Oregon, having served as sponsor of many Junior High groups and as a state union officer.

THE INN THAT MISSED ITS CHANCE
(The Landlord Speaks—A.D. 28.)

Could I know
That they were so important? Just the two
No servants, just a workman sort of man
Leading a donkey, and his wife thereon,
Drooping and pale. I saw them not myself.
My servants must have driven them away.

There was a sign, they say, a heavenly light
Resplendent; but I had no time for stars.
And there were songs of angels in the air
And on the hills; but how was I to hear
Amid the thousand clamors of an inn?

Of course, if I had known then who they were,
And who was He that should be born that night—
Alas! Alas! To miss a chance like that!
This inn that might be chief among them all,
The birthplace of Messiah—had I known!

—Amos R. Wells

Scripture Fulfilled

His Name Is Given. Read Isaiah 9:6,7; Luke 1:31-33; Philippians 2:9-11. Nine hundred years earlier Isaiah had prophesied of the coming of the Christ as a child, and told of different names by which He was to be called. Gabriel told Mary that the child which she was to have was to be called Jesus, for He would save His people from their sins. Of His many wonderful, meaningful names, none is sweeter than the name Jesus. He was to be the long-promised Saviour to come to earth to die in our stead, that our sins might be forgiven, and that we might be reconciled to God.

He Was to Have a Throne (Read Luke 1:32,33). A throne is a symbol of a kingdom. Jesus came to establish the Kingdom of God. The Jews, even until the time of His death, did not understand the nature of His kingdom. They expected Him to establish an earthly kingdom by overcoming the Roman rule. When questioned by Pilate, Jesus answered that His kingdom was not of this world. At another time He said that His was an everlasting kingdom. His throne is established forever.

Mary Praises God (Read Luke 1:46-55). This outburst of praise to God is one of the most beautiful passages in the New Testament. The verses are called the Magnificat.

The Birth of Jesus (Read Luke 2:1-7). The King, the Son of God, had come to the earth. What a simple story is told us of this glorious event in Bethlehem! This was the first Christmas! It was a great *spiritual* event! With the birth of Christ prophecy was fulfilled and the Saviour of the world announced. It was the most important event in the history of the world. No other date has so influenced the history of the world. It was the dividing line between the Old and the New Testaments.

The Prophecy of Simeon (Read Luke 2:25-35). Simeon was probably advanced in years. He was a devout man and had been praying for and looking for the coming of the Messiah. He had been given the promise of the Holy Spirit that he should see the Christ before he died.

Accordingly, Simeon was led by the Spirit to the temple at the time that Mary and Joseph took Jesus to present Him according to the Jewish law. Without waiting for Mary to tell him what had happened to her, Simeon, led of the Spirit, took the babe in his arms, recognizing Him to be the promised One.

To the Sponsor

If you live in a city you will be able to secure copies of the following great paintings from your library:

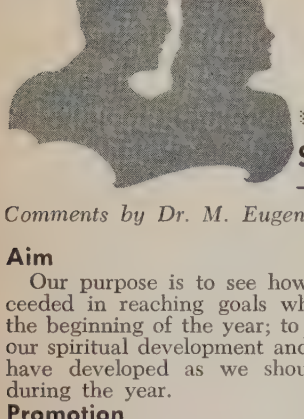
The Immaculate Conception, *Murillo*
The Annunciation, *Hacker*
The Sistine Madonna, *Raphael*
The Arrival at Bethlehem, *Merson*
Tidings of Great Joy, *Plockhorst*
The Arrival of the Shepherds, *Lerolle*
The Flight into Egypt, *Girardet*

Interpretations accompany pictures. If it is not possible to secure pictures from the library, you may secure small prints from The Perry Picture Company, Malden, Massachusetts, very inexpensively. Or, you may secure larger prints at a very nominal sum from your denominational publishing house. See your catalog. Order by number.

Final announcement should be made concerning plans for carolling or Christmas plans for others. Let's make this truly a Christ-centered Christmas!

Questions for Discussion

1. At a birthday celebration, who is the honored guest and who receives the gifts? What proves that we've forgotten whose birthday Christmas is?
2. When we speak of Christmas as a holiday, do we realize that we mean it is a *holy* day? Why is Christmas just as holy as Sunday?
3. What responsibility toward future generations do we have to keep Christmas Christlike?
4. What changes would there be in your community if Christ had not come?
5. God sent Jesus to be the Saviour of the world. Jesus trained the twelve and left the job in their hands, and in ours. Why has the world not been won to Him?



How Does It Look Now?

Psalm 51:1-4,10-17

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years) *DECEMBER 2*

*Comments by Dr. M. Eugene Osterhaven**

Aim

Our purpose is to see how well we succeeded in reaching goals which we set at the beginning of the year; to concentrate on our spiritual development and our failure to have developed as we should have done during the year.

Promotion

A poster might show a drawing or picture of a person looking over his bookkeeping at the end of the year. Another suggestion is to portray a person overlooking a landscape with the words of the topic printed over it and the date, time and place of the meeting below. Advantage should also be taken of the fact that this is the last meeting of the year and that the year should close well. How better can one close it than by being faithful in one's religious duties?

Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Hymn: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*
Chorus Time
Hymn: *Living for Jesus*
Scripture: Psalm 51:1-4,10-17; 90:1-4
Special Music
Sentence Prayers (including thanksgiving for past blessings)
Announcements
Topic Presentation
Discussion
Hymn: *More Like the Master*
Benediction

For the Leader

We began this year with a topic on "Inventory Time" when we thought about the resources for Christian living which God has given us. The Scripture was about the lad who had five buns and two small fishes, commonplace things which the Lord blessed and multiplied. We saw that whatever may be the gifts which we have they must have the Master's touch before they can become a blessing to us and others. We also emphasized the stewardship of all our possessions, remembering that when we dedicate ourselves and what we have to Christ life becomes radiant and satisfying.

Now the year is about to end. In this topic we wish to have another look at the goals which may almost have been forgotten in the hustle of living, remembering the necessity for gratitude for past favors, and seeing where we have fallen short.

Goals That Were Set

Let us reach back into our minds to try to recall what goals we set as Christian Endeavorers at the beginning of the year. If we cannot recall or if we did not set any specific objectives before us, we can ask ourselves what goals we might have set before us or subconsciously were ours. They might be divided into two groups—personal goals and society goals.

Our personal goals ought to have included: (1) spiritual growth through prayer and the reading of Scripture; (2) witnessing; (3) seeking to be like Jesus in our daily life; (4) becoming better stewards of time and possessions; and (5) living happier, more effective Christian lives. Goals for our society should have included (1) improvements of weekly meetings; (2) securing new members; and (3) more effective witnessing in church and community.

Looking back, which of our goals have we reached? Have we grown in the grace and knowledge of our only Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ? If we are not sure, we should do some soul-searching before the year goes out. Growth is a law of life and if we do not grow we lose what gifts we now possess.

The Christian should never be satisfied, but he must also see evidence of spiritual progress. Paul's word should apply to him: "This one thing I do; forgetting those things that are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13f.).

How faithful has been our witnessing? Have we actually done any to those who are outside the church? It might be helpful here to have volunteers relate experiences which they have had during the past year as they sought to witness for Christ. The old Methodist "class meetings" made much of such experiences and there is occasional place for them even today.

Have we tried to imitate our Lord in holy living? Let us ask ourselves whether this has been at all true, and whether we have put forth any effort to this end.

Have we become better stewards of our time and possessions? It would be well for each society member or visitor to ask himself in a few moments of silence whether he has advanced in this aspect of his Christian life.

And then we must ask ourselves whether we are actually happier, more effective Christians today than we were a year ago. If we are not, something is wrong and we had better take a long look at our spiritual condition. The need in the church today is for Christians who seek to live by the Spirit and thus to "show forth the praises of Him who has called them out of darkness into His own marvelous light."

Take a few moments to consider whether your society has advanced towards its goals during the past year. Have meetings improved? Has membership increased, and is the society a more effective witness in the church and the community?

Confession To Be Made

The remembrance of what we ought to have done and failed to do, and what we have done amiss, is a disappointing experience. Because of its high ideals Christianity brings all who profess it to the point where they must confess their shortcomings. That is part of its grandeur. It is a religion that humbles man by reminding him that he falls short of that which he should do and that he must ever look to Christ for his salvation.

For this reason our Scripture for today is particularly appropriate. "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving kindness; according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions . . . . Against thee, thee only have I sinned . . . . Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me . . . Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation."

What child of God has not had to pray that prayer and pray it often! What God desires in His children is that penitent spirit and the resolution to try to improve. "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

God, Our Eternal Dwelling Place

It is well to recall this at our last meeting. The years speed by, parents and friends sooner or later leave us, and we wonder if anything is lasting. In the midst of our human frailty, our failures to reach all our goals, and our hopes for a better tomorrow we remember that God is our eternal dwelling place. He gives continuity and comfort to life.

The author of Psalm 90 is meditating on this fact. Before the mountains were brought forth, and after they have been removed, God was, and shall be, the same. The children of Israel could look back to see how God had been the refuge of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, how He had cared for Moses and the children of Israel. They remembered His hand in the exodus and the Red Sea, in the wilderness and the conquest of Canaan.

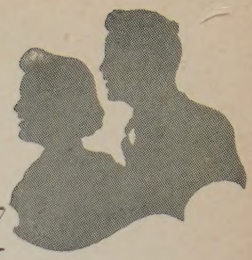
At this point of time we too can look back into history to those days. Then we can come down the corridor of time to see the promises fulfilled in Jesus Christ. We can read the story of the early Church and of persons, like ourselves, who found their hope and joy in God in their generation.

We can look back just a few years and remember that the thought of many a mother's son, mortally wounded on a battlefield, with no prospect of returning home was God. From that picture of his earthly home which his eyes would never again behold, the Christian soldier, breathing his last as his blood stained the soil, turned his eyes to that home not made with hands eternal in the heavens, and his comfort was the words of this psalm: "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations."

As the year goes out and as we remember that the outgoing year is a symbol of life, we find confidence in these thoughts. Life's little day goes swift to its close; earth's joys are not what they once seemed to be. In the midst of change and decay and of failure the Christian looks up to God and finds in Him all his comfort and hope for a better tomorrow. Hope springs eternal in the human breast. We learn from our shortcomings and errors, and by God's grace we resolve to do better in the years which He still gives us.

*Dr. Osterhaven is professor of systematic theology of Western Theological Seminary, Holland, Michigan.

There's a New Year Dawning



Revelation 21:5a; Psalm 90

Junior High (12-14 Years) *DECEMBER 27*

*Comments by Charles O. Heyward**

Preparation for the Meeting

This meeting should be a great rallying point for the Junior Highs of your church. The topic itself is meaningful and challenging, and should be considered by every Intermediate in the Sunday school and every friend who can be invited, as well as by each member of the society.

A Christmas atmosphere will still be appropriate, for Christ's coming into the world is what gives meaning to the New Year and to every year. Plan the meeting carefully down to the last detail. Pray often for the meeting.

For publicity, a model or picture of a rocket might be used, with the caption "Launching a New Year for Christ at Junior High Christian Endeavor this evening at ___ o'clock."

Program Suggestions

Hymns: *Joy to the World, He Keeps Me Singing, Trust and Obey, God's Way My Way, More Like the Master.*

Prayer: Have a pre-prayer service before the meeting. During the meeting, encourage all to offer a brief prayer in the prayer time. Pray for the New Year, especially the witness of each member at school, the devotional life of each one, and the work of the society as a whole. Prayer is certainly the most important part of a New Year's meeting. Do everything to make this time meaningful.

Scripture: Use God's Word effectively. Open the meeting with the reading of Psalm 65:11. Let several participate in the Scripture reading.

Discussion: Assign parts in plenty of time for each young person to become familiar with his material and to add thoughts of his own.

Suggestion: Request that each one pick a "year's Scripture verse" and memorize it for the Consecration service next Sunday.

Leader's Remarks

The year 1960 is known to God as if it had already passed. If we could fly over a highway and see the road ahead as easily as we could see what is behind, it would illustrate how the future is known to God as clearly as the past. We should be thankful tonight that our God is one who knows the end from the beginning. No Christian should see the New Year come in with any feeling of uncertainty or fear. God is still "within the shadows keeping watch above His own." Before we discuss the year ahead this evening, let's think about the year that is now ending.

First Speaker

(Read again Psalm 65:11.) If we would try to write down all the good things God has done for each one of us during 1959, we would not be able to finish writing tonight. We would not even be able to think of all of them. In fact, it is easy for us to forget many of the wonderful things the Lord does for us every day.

Every time we pray there is something we can be thankful for. Even the many Christians who have experienced suffering and grief during the past year must thank God for the strength and peace He gives to those who belong to Him. We can say with the psalmist, "O that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!"

Leader: Now as we look ahead to the New Year let us imagine ourselves standing at the end of a long corridor, along which are closed doors on either side. Each door represents an opportunity to be stronger Christians and better servants of Christ. As we look at the sign on each door, let us be praying silently that we will be obedient and open the door and enter into the joy that it leads us to.

Second Speaker

The first door is labeled "John 15:4." *(Read the verse.)* The Lord wants us to spend time with Him each day. We speak to Him through prayer and He speaks to us through His Word. This is how we get to know Him better and this is how He gives us joy and victory each day.

For any of us who have not begun to observe the Quiet Hour—15 minutes or more each day in personal devotions—the dawn of this New Year is a good time to begin. We cannot face the New Year as Christian young people without spending time with Christ each day.

Third Speaker

The second door is labeled "Hebrews 10:25." *(Read the verse.)* Through this door of fellowship in the services of our church and Christian Endeavor society we shall find strength and encouragement to face whatever the year ahead holds for us. Next to fellowship with the Lord we need fellowship with His people more than anything else. We must all pray for a new sense of loyalty to our church, Sunday school and society services.

Fourth Speaker

On the third door is "Acts 1:8." *(Read.)* Let us open this door with enthusiasm! We have a wonderful Saviour to share with others, and as we get to know Him better we shall be better able to introduce Him to our friends. Let us promise the Lord in this meeting that we will begin to memorize Scripture verses that show the way to Christ, and that we will pray for our friends and relatives who do not know Him as their Saviour. Our "Jerusalem" is our own town or neighborhood, and though we are not ready yet to go to the "uttermost part of the earth," we can be a witness and a missionary right in our own block and right in our own school!

Fifth Speaker

The next door is labeled "I Corinthians 10:13." *(Read.)* Yielding to temptation is what keeps Christians from acting like Christians. When we are tempted to speak unkindly to anyone, to gossip, to cheat or to go with the wrong crowd, we have a way of escape from the temptation. All we need to do is turn to Jesus immediately and ask for His help and the temptation will go away. But we need to really desire to escape the temptation before the Lord can help us. The little girl who stands and watches the open box of candy does not really want the temptation to leave her. We must not purposely let ourselves be tempted, but when temptation does come, let us remember that with Jesus Christ there is always victory over it.

Sixth Speaker

On another door is "Ephesians 5:8." *(Read.)* When we receive Christ we receive His light, which shows us the truth of His Word and reveals the sins in our lives. If we enter this door and obey this important command to "walk as children of light," our lives will shine for Christ. We will be different from non-Christians—those who are still "children of darkness."

Perhaps during the past year some of us have forgotten at times that we belonged to Christ and have said and done things as if we were still in darkness. Let us walk faithfully in His light in 1960, and when we do stumble, confess each sin that His light reveals to us, so that we shall remain in His fellowship and be useful to Him.

Closing the Meeting

In the closing moments of the meeting use dim light or candlelight. Ask that different ones briefly tell of some blessing from the Lord during the past year, or tell some definite way in which they will add to their spiritual life during the coming year, such as beginning the daily Quiet Hour or memorizing a new Scripture verse each week. Close with prayer and a hymn.

FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

1. In Psalm 90, pick out the verses which have anything to do with the subject of time.
2. What weakness, which has to do with time, have most of us been guilty of during the past year? Why is time precious?
3. What is the meaning of verse 12? Compare it with Ephesians 5:15,16.
4. Complete these sentences: One of the best uses of time is to gain ____. The greatest source of wisdom is ____. The ____ all around us challenges us to live for Christ each day. The best way to live for Him is to let Him ____ in us.
5. Luke 12:19 and Ephesians 6:18 tell two of the ways in which New Year's Eve will be observed. Does it matter which way a Christian observes it? Can a Christian have fun and honor the Lord also?

*Mr. Heyward is assistant director of youth activities for the Y.M.C.A. of Washington, D.C., and a former Christian Endeavor field secretary.

Daily Bible Readings for Your Quiet Hour

Here are the daily Bible readings selected for use in connection with the weekly Christian Endeavor topics for December, 1959. These particular selections have been chosen because they give valuable food for thought in connection with the topic for the Sunday to follow.

These readings are grouped together on one page in order that Endeavorers may easily use them. Why not clip out this section and place it in your Bible, ready for your daily Quiet Hour observance.

Junior High (Intermediate) Daily Readings

M., Nov. 30. Thinking of God's Glory. Psalm 19.
T., Dec. 1. Thinking of God's Forgiveness. Psalm 130.
W., Dec. 2. Thinking of God's Requirements. Psalm 15.
T., Dec. 3. Thinking of God's Blessings. Psalm 126.
F., Dec. 4. Thinking of God's Help. Psalm 46.
S., Dec. 5. Thinking of Praising God. Psalm 98.
Sun., Dec. 6. Topic—Thinking with the Psalmist. Psalm 1; Psalm 23.
M., Dec. 7. Jesus' Birthplace. Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1.
T., Dec. 8. Jesus' Birth. Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18.
W., Dec. 9. Jesus' Ministry. Isaiah 9:1,2; Matthew 4:12-16.
T., Dec. 10. The Triumphal Entry. Zechariah 9:9; John 12:13,14.
F., Dec. 11. Jesus' Death. Isaiah 52:12; Matthew 27:38.
S., Dec. 12. Jesus' Resurrection. Psalm 16:10; Matthew 28:9.
Sun., Dec. 13. Topic—The Prophets Point the Way. Isaiah 7:14; 9:6,7; 53:3-12. (Universal Bible Sunday)
M., Dec. 14. His Name. Philippians 2:9.
T., Dec. 15. His Throne. Acts 2:29-35.
W., Dec. 16. His Government. Isaiah 9:7.
T., Dec. 17. Christ of Bethlehem. John 7:40-42.
F., Dec. 18. The Incarnation. John 1:1,2,14.
S., Dec. 19. First Born to God. Nehemiah 10:36,37.
Sun., Dec. 20. Topic—Luke Tells the Story. Luke 2:1-7,25-35. (Christmas Sunday)
M., Dec. 21. Leave Sins Behind. Ezekiel 18:30-32.
T., Dec. 22. New Covenant. Hebrews 8:6-13.
W., Dec. 23. Gird Up. Ephesians 6:10-20.
T., Dec. 24. Adopt Standards. Romans 12:1,2.
F., Dec. 25. Press On. Philippians 3:13,14.
S., Dec. 26. Live by Faith. Hebrews 11:1,2.
Sun., Dec. 27. Topic—There's a New Year Dawning. Revelation 21:5a; Psalm 90.

Senior-Young People's Daily Readings

M., Nov. 30. Seed of Woman. Genesis 3:14,15.
T., Dec. 1. Promised to Abraham. Genesis 12:1-3.
W., Dec. 2. The Tribe of Judah. Genesis 49:8-10.
T., Dec. 3. The Prophet. Deuteronomy 18:15-18.
F., Dec. 4. The Priest. Psalm 110:1-4.
S., Dec. 5. The King. Zechariah 9:9-12.
Sun., Dec. 6. Topic—Biblical Road Signs. Genesis 12:1-3.
M., Dec. 7. Jesus' Birthplace. Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1.
T., Dec. 8. Jesus' Birth. Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18.
W., Dec. 9. Jesus' Ministry. Isaiah 9:1,2; Matthew 4:12-16.
T., Dec. 10. The Triumphal Entry. Zechariah 9:9; John 12:13,14.
F., Dec. 11. Jesus' Death. Isaiah 52:12; Matthew 27:38.
S., Dec. 12. Jesus' Resurrection. Psalm 16:10; Matthew 28:9.
Sun., Dec. 13. Topic—Phophetic Spotlight. Isaiah 7:14; 9:6,7; 53:3-12.
M., Dec. 14. The Gift of Love. I John 4:9,10.
T., Dec. 15. A Gift without Return. Luke 6:27-30,34
W., Dec. 16. A Generous Gift. Romans 5:6-
T., Dec. 17. The Gift That Produces Joy. I Chronicles 29:6-
F., Dec. 18. Blessedness of Giving. Malachi 3:10-1
S., Dec. 19. Cheerful Giving. II Corinthians 9:6-
Sun., Dec. 20. Topic — Giving Is Glorio John 3:14-21. (Christmas Sunday)
M., Dec. 21. Remember. Deuteronomy 4:9,1
T., Dec. 22. Hitherto. I Samuel 7:3,11,1
W., Dec. 23. The Past Challenges the Futur Hebrews 12:1,
T., Dec. 24. Work for Approval. I Timothy 2:14-1
F., Dec. 25. Seek Spiritual Gifts. I Corinthians 14:1,1
S., Dec. 26. Future Reward for Past Labor. II Timothy 4:7,
Sun., Dec. 27. Topic—How Does It Look Now Psalm 51:1-4,10-17.

JUNIOR CE MEETINGS
The Quarterly for Juniors

Topics for DECEMBER

Dec. 6. Sharing with Others. Acts 3:1-1
Dec. 13. Putting Good Will to Work. Luke 10:29-3
Dec. 20. "Let Us Adore Him." Isaiah 9:6,
Dec. 27. Looking Forward. Philippians 3:13,1

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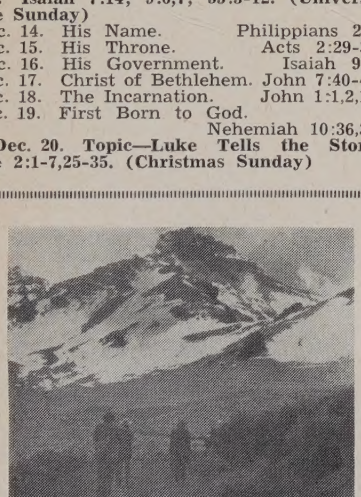

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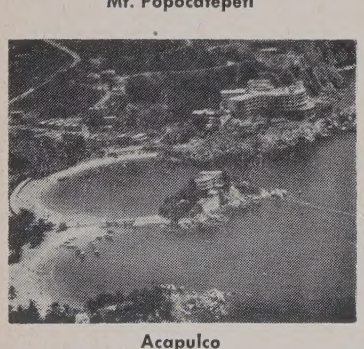

Acapulco

Tour Mexico in 1960 . . . .

For a vacation to remember, join Christian Endeavor's International Fellowship Tour. Enjoy 23 thrill-packed days in this exotic country south of the border. The tour group leaves Chicago via air on August 6, arriving back in Chicago by plane on August 28.

High light of the tour will be participation in the Pacific Area Conference of the World's Christian Endeavor Union in Mexico City August 17-20.

This all-expense, personally conducted tour will give a taste of all that is Mexico—colonial Mexico, the Independence Country, the tropical region, and the vacation and resort areas.

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Enjoy a vacation with a purpose!

NEWS
from around the world

Mabel Culter

Mabel Culter is a new writer of Senior-Young People's topic materials. Active for many years in California Christian Endeavor, she founded Culter Academy in Los Angeles and has served in China and Japan as a missionary. Miss Culter is now returning to Korea under The Evangelical Alliance Mission, to take over a Bible-Vocational School.

Kentucky Endeavorers met with Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, president of the International Society, on October 13. Christian A. Tirre headed up local arrangements for dinner and a meeting which followed.

Seven thousand delegates, representing nearly 500 national organizations devoted to the interests of youth, will attend the White House Conference on Children and Youth in Washington, D.C., from March 27 to April 2. Named to officially represent the International Society of Christian Endeavor are the president, Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, and the general secretary, Harold E. Westerhoff.

Lehigh County (Pennsylvania) Endeavorers are sending assistance to Korea for Sunday school work and evangelism as part of their missionary program.

George H. Nelms (left), mayor of the city of Ottawa, Ontario, greets Harold E. Westerhoff, general secretary of the International Society, and extends an invitation to Endeavorers of North America to come to Canada's Capital City for Christian Endeavor's Citizenship Convocation July 1-3, 1960.

Harold E. Westerhoff is serving as local chairman for the Tenth Annual Meeting of the All-American Conference to Combat Communism. Sessions will be held in Columbus, Ohio, November 12-14. Dr. Daniel A. Poling will give the keynote address.

A session in the United States was an unusual feature of the Ontario Convention held over the Canadian Thanksgiving weekend, October 10-12, in Fort Erie. Historic First Church of Evans at Derby, New York, was the scene for this event. Host pastor was Dr. Earle W. Gates, immediate past president of the International Society. Other International Christian Endeavor leaders participating in the convention were Rev. Charles W. Barner and Frances Becker, both from Pennsylvania. Mr. Barner is chairman of the Educational Committee of the Executives' Program Council. Miss Becker, a member of the Executive Committee of International Society, led a course on Christian Endeavor Essentials.

"Forward with Christ" was the theme of the Wisconsin Convention September 18-20 at Green Lake. John Fortuin of Randolph was re-elected president of the union.

Rev. and Mrs. Raymond Weiss and their daughter, forced to leave the mission field in Iraq due to local unrest, are now serving in the Ann Arbor, Michigan, area. A minister of the Reformed Church in America, Mr. Weiss is a former field secretary of the Michigan Union.

One hundred Endeavorers, representing the five states in the area, participated in the Great Lakes Regional Conference October 10-11 at Oakwood Park near Syracuse, Indiana. Theme was "Take Christ — Live Christ—Give Christ."

The 1959 winners of the titles "Miss Christian Endeavor" and "Mr. Christian Endeavor" of Texas are Lynda Green and Charles Chance, both members of Second Christian Church in Houston. These two outstanding youth attended the International Christian Endeavor Convention in Philadelphia.

Nellie V. Griffin

Etta Berger

Rev. Clair E. Beatty

Hazel Steager

Newly-elected union presidents pictured above include Etta Berger of Portland, who recently took over the top position in Oregon. Nellie V. Griffin of Mt. Rainier was named Maryland Union's head at their annual convention. Indiana Union is under the leadership of Hazel Steager of Fort Wayne, while Rev. Clair E. Beatty of Covington is heading up union work in Ohio.

Some 50 delegates attended the annual convention of the Spanish Christian Endeavor Union, held this year in Valencia. Rev. Arno Pagel, president of the German Union, participated in the sessions.

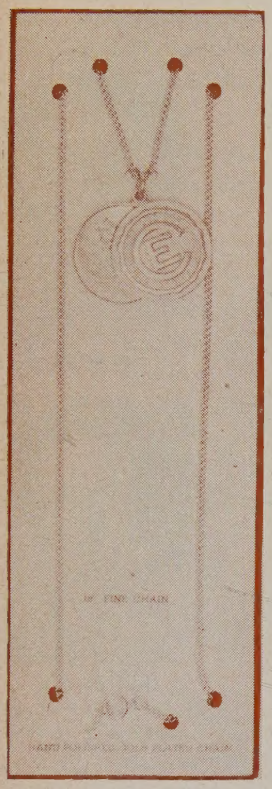
In Portugal a new Christian Endeavor union has been formed which includes isolated societies that have been in existence for some time in the Methodist and Lusitanian groups. Plans are being made for the first convention of the new union to be held January 30 to February 2, 1960.

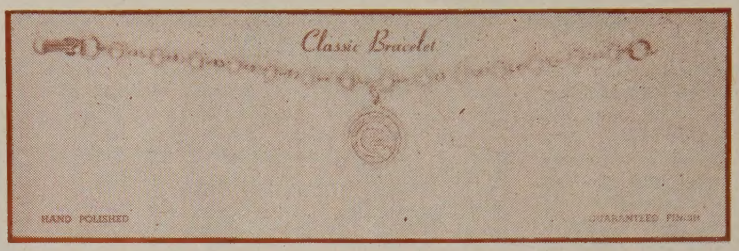
New York State Union officers are pictured after their election during special sessions held in connection with the International Convention in Philadelphia. Marvin Sloane (third from left, seated) of Rochester was re-elected president.

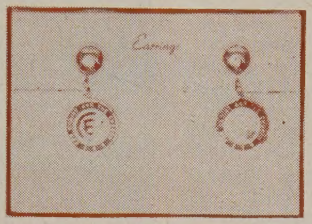
Photo by C. John Crockett

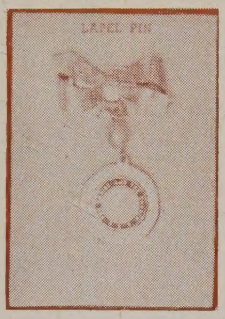
Christmas GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Give Christian Endeavor jewelry–new, inexpensive, and sure to please









For the girls . . .

NECKLACE, 18" hand polished gold plated chain, with unique Two-Tone medallion, 1⅛" in diameter, which slides apart to reveal the first sentence of the Christian Endeavor Pledge. 1301D 1.5

PEARL BRACELET, a circlet of lustrous simulated pearls linked with gold chain, Two-Tone 11/16" medallion. 1002P 1.2

EARRINGS, graceful drop style, ⅝" Enamel medallion.
Screw type 18021S 1.5
Clip on 18021C 1.5

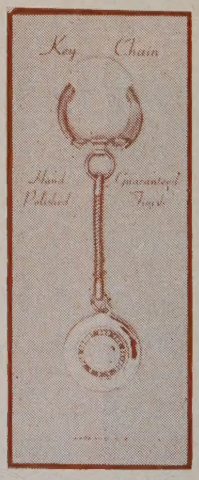
LAPEL BOW PIN, metal bow with pearl center, ⅝" Enamel medallion on disk. 4021 1.5

For the fellows . . .

TIE CLIP, smartly styled, alligator grip, Two-Tone 11/16" medallion. T2 1.00

KEY CHAIN, 1" round metal key holder with clasp, ⅝" Enamel medallion on disk suspended on sleek metal snake chain. 11021 1.25

LARIAT TIE, novelty cord tie with metal-tipped ends, held by Two-Tone 1⅛" medallion. 1501 1.25



Photos are one-half actual jewelry size. Most of the items shown are available with the Christian Endeavor medallion in either the Two-Tone finish (lustrous satin silver highlighted with polished gold) or the Enamel finish (beautiful hard-fired red and white enamel, with highlights of polished gold). Write for a complete catalog, including a listing of many jewelry items not pictured here.

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